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CONTACT: Jan Morris  
(309) 888-5446

## **Annette Thoennes Named Health Department Employee of the Year**

BLOOMINGTON—Annette Thoennes has been named the 2010 McLean County Health Department Alice J. Olsson Memorial Employee of the Year. Nominations cited Thoennes' hardworking and cheerful nature as well as her professionalism among the many reasons she deserved recognition.

A health department employee for more than eight years, Thoennes oversees the administrative functions of the emergency preparedness and response division. In this role, she was a critical component to carrying out all H1N1 clinics that lead to more than 20,000 McLean County residents being vaccinated in three months time. Her oversight included clinic logistics, operations and inventory. Thoennes constantly observed clinic operations and suggested changes that helped clinics run more efficiently and effectively.

Beyond H1N1, Thoennes coordinates department emergency preparedness training and helps maintain the McLean County Medical Reserve Corps. She also assists with the procurement of emergency preparedness equipment and vendors as well as local partners. Thoennes is often sought out as a resource for staff members and individuals from other counties.

Health Department Director Walt Howe applauded Thoennes' accomplishments. "As a result of Annette's hard work, McLean County Health Department employees are more prepared and residents are safer from public health emergencies. Her work was vital to the successful outcome of McLean County's H1N1 vaccination efforts. Annette's dedication and initiative embody the criteria for this award," Howe said.

The Alice J. Olsson Memorial Employee of the Year award honors an employee of the McLean County Health Department for outstanding achievement related to public health services in McLean County. Criteria for the award include commitment to health department mission, demonstrated success in furthering the mission, exemplary representation of the department and achievement above and beyond required responsibilities.

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